

On Immigration

The United States is a nation of immigrants. The U.S. must resist zero tolerance of immigrants and remember its values. Immigrants — whether from Norway, like my family, Mexico, Korea or Iran — should be able to pursue their American Dream, contribute to the U.S. economy and provide for their families.

Below are the actions I have taken in Congress to reform the U.S.' immigration system in the last year.

MY WORK

I support immigration reform that replaces deterrence with compassion, callousness with humanity, and talk of a border wall with talk of the Statue of Liberty and the freedom she represents to people around the world.

- I support Rep. Sanchez's [U.S. Citizenship Act](#) to establish a pathway to citizenship for many immigrants, fast track green card processing for DACA recipients and strengthen border security measures.
- I supported Reps. Escobar and Salazar's [American Families United Act](#) to offer certain undocumented family members of a U.S. citizen a legal pathway to remain in the U.S.
- I support Reps. Jayapal and Smith's [Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act](#) to implement humane standards in immigrant detention.
- On March 24, 2023, I signed an appropriations letter asking for robust funding to address the root causes of migration in Central American countries.
- On March 13, 2023, I signed a letter urging the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fix implementation issues with the *CBP One* App and rescind asylum restrictions for migrants that cross a third country.

I support strengthening refugee protections. Significantly raising refugee caps and enhancing support for newly arrived refugees would improve U.S. global leadership in human rights protection.

- On March 24, 2023, I signed an appropriations letter to extend the Lautenberg amendment, which has helped Ukrainians reunite with their families in the U.S.
- On March 23, 2023, I signed an appropriations letter asking for \$5.2 billion for the State Department's Migration and Refugee Assistance account.
- On March 16, 2023, I attended a forum organized by Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest to hear from newly arrived Ukrainian and Afghan migrants and local stakeholders on issues refugees face in accessing housing, education and food.
- I supported the bipartisan [Afghan Adjustment Act](#) to establish a legal pathway to permanent status for Afghan evacuees and improve the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) process for Afghan allies who assisted the U.S. government.

I am committed to keeping families together and protecting unaccompanied children. Most families arriving at the U.S. border seek asylum and must not be subject to the trauma of separation and incarceration.

- On May 11, 2023, [I voted "NO"](#) on H.R. 2, the GOP's cruel *Child Deportation Bill*.
- On March 29, 2023, I signed an appropriations letter discouraging the DHS from funding migrant family detention and, instead, calling on them to invest in more effective case management programs.
- On March 28, 2023, I signed a [letter](#) urging President Biden to uphold his commitment to ending the practice of detaining immigrant families and children.
- On January 30, 2023, I signed a letter urging the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expand legal services for unaccompanied migrant children.

MY VISITS TO THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER

My visits to the U.S.-Mexico border have informed my view of the humane, but comprehensive approach the U.S. must take to ensure borders are secure and help the record number of migrants fleeing crises across the Western Hemisphere.

I have visited the U.S.-Mexico border twice in 2023. In May, I met with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) at the Brownsville Texas Gateway International Bridge, a busy port of entry in the Rio Grande Valley, to hear how CBP was preparing to shift from Title 42 to Title 8 asylum processing. In February, I joined Rep. Escobar in El Paso, Texas to meet with migrants sheltered at Sacred Heart Church and learn about the experiences of unaccompanied migrant children.